

Senior Leadership Team Meeting Notes

7/24/2017

1:00-2:30 p.m. (RA Conference Room)

Deb Thomas RA		Kim Opekar ARA ECEJ	x	K.C. Schefski RC		Jeffrey Martinez CID	
Suzanne Bohan DRA	x	Mark Chalfant DARA ECEJ	x	Paul Logan Dep RC		Pat Gilbride IG	x
Laura Jenkins COS		Andrew Mutter Dir OCPI		Elyana Sutin Dep RC			
Patrick Rogers Tribal Adv.	x	Martin Hestmark ARA OPRA	x	Darcy O'Connor ARA OWP			
		Carl Daly DARA OPRA	x	Bert Garcia DARA OWP			
		Betsy Smidinger ARA EPR	x	Rick Buhl ARA TMS			
Betsy Varcoe, Recorder	x	Sandy Stavnes DARA EPR	x	Patrice Kortuem DARA TMS		Jasmin Guerra, OCPI	x

1. Guest Introductions – None

2. Special Topic – None

3. HQ Call

- OARM – VERA/VSIP deadline is Weds 7/26; 444 applications have been submitted to the agency.
- Chief Operating Officer Henry Darwin outlined his plans to Lean the EPA. Stephanie Vuong is coordinating a Lean Symposium at R8 the week of 7/31.
- Liz Bowman is leading the Office of Public Affairs; Tate Bennett has moved to a new position in OCIR.
- OGC – There was a victory on 7/18 in the 9th Circuit Court regarding regulation of chlorpyrifos, and an action in the D.C. Circuit Court on regulatory control of Hazardous Air Pollutants.
- ORD – Science Innovation Award recipients were recently announced.
- OW – Lee Forsgren is the new Deputy AA.
- OCSPP – Regional liaisons will meet this week.
- OCFO – Strategic plan framework is being adjusted.
- OAR – Process has begun on targeted airshed grants. Trends report will be released. Public hearing will be held on fuels standards.
- OITA – The White House will hold a meeting today regarding the agreement with China on science and technology.
- OLEM – The Superfund 30-day report will be released on 7/25. Also releasing the National Priority List.
- R8 – Staff will participate in an open-house-style public meeting in Security-Widefield-Fountain CO on 7/25 to update residents on ongoing efforts to address drinking water contamination from PFCs.

4. RA/DRA Highlights

Suzanne - Suzanne and Deb attended meetings in D.C. last week.

- ECOS STEP (State Environmental Protection) – Ken Wagner spoke on priorities and best practices – restoring trust between states and the EPA, regions and HQ working more closely together, and supporting states' decisions. He described Federalism as who makes the decision, not what the decision is.
- EPA – ECOS – Todd Parfitt (WY DEQ) and Martha Rudolph (CDPHE) attended from R8 states. Various speakers emphasized relationship management, communication and support among HQ,

regions and states; streamlining; and consistency. Henry Darwin spoke on Leaning EPA. Five initial areas of focus will be contracting, HR, FOIA, permitting and SIPs.

5. Report from Deputies - Will not meet on 7/25 due to the Tribal Law and Policy Training. Paul will discuss FCO duties for the RA/OCPI/ORC with Suzanne.
6. Round Robin
 - Rick – People Plus 9.2 training – must register for both supervisor and employee training; see Ben Bielenberg's 7/19 email or 8net. Building owners are starting to tour prospective tenants on the 8th and 9th floors. TMS will have a leadership team meeting offsite on 7/26 and an All Hands meeting on 7/27; MT staff will attend in person. Badging office hours were published in *This Week* (10-12 on Tues, Wed and Thurs). The TMS survey closes on 7/28; it will be used by TMS to plan work and staffing so please encourage supervisors to complete the survey. RMC will decide all PHS officer conversions due to the fees involved.
 - K.C. – Update on Administrator's interest in meetings on and a visit to Gold King Mine. Betsy S. will contact Kell Kelly for additional information.
 - Patrick – 60+ are registered for the 7/25 training on Tribal Law and Policy. Upcoming consultations: Ponca Tribe on Dewey Burdock 8/23, Cheyenne River on Dewey Burdock TBD, Cheyenne River on WOTUS TBD, 3 Affiliated Tribes TBD, Ute Mountain Ute on White Mesa and groundwater permit where several federal agencies are involved TBD.
 - Jasmin – An R8 Mass Mailer mailbox has been created to send all-employee messages, rather than from the RA, HR, Infrastructure, IT or others; Whitney will send a test message on 7/25. The Library is sponsoring a book give-away. The Feds Feed Families campaign continues.
 - Betsy S. – Deb will meet on 7/26 with the BLM Acting Colorado Director regarding the Park Center Well; BLM may also send a letter re. coordination at American Tunnel. On 7/31 Betsy and Bill Murray will attend the opening of the Clear Creek Water Treatment Plant with Ken Wagner; Betsy and Martha Rudolph will be speaking. Two House committees will be briefed on the Superfund Task Force Report on 7/26. EPR will prepare Q&As for the NPL Federal Register notice due out on 7/31, which will include the withdrawal of the Burlington Northern/Livingston Superfund Site. On 8/2 there will be a Brownfield event in Kalispell; Secretary Zinke will attend and Kell Kelly or Patrick Davis may attend. EPR will send a letter to Fish and Wildlife and initiate consultation on Butte/Silverbow with respect to the ESA suit by the Alliance for the Wild Rockies.
 - Carl – Will send information on a possible speaker for the 9/6 Awards Ceremony for SLT's concurrence. Will attend the OCSPD Director meeting in Washington, D.C.
 - Martin – Updates on U&O FIP, Nishu store, and Hunter Title V petition.
 - Mark – Awards Board will meet 7/27 on regional Honor Awards; will email information to SLT.
 - Kim – On 7/25, will participate on an HQ call on procedures for issuing emergency orders. Jim Eppers is reassigning Brenda Morris' cases due to her retirement. RCRA will be sending a Hot Issue on a national case on incineration of metal waste; details are being worked out through OECA. Had a recent conversation with CDPHE regarding the fossil water matter; still working through next steps.

- Bert – The Corps of Engineers issued for comment a draft 404 permit for the West Davis Corridor project; OWP is discussing the next step of a letter to the Corps under 404q. Update on American Gilsonite; intend to proceed with our permit action within a week unless we receive any different direction. OWP is preparing to respond to questions from the Administrator's office on Dewey Burdock. Sarah attended the Water Quality Forum meeting and presented on unregulated contaminants; the meeting was non-eventful. GKM biological and fish habitat data assessment from the original sampling and 2017 spring runoff data will be released to jurisdictions in late August; ORD will review and interpret the run-off data. OWP will participate on a states and tribes call tomorrow and in a face-to-face meeting in August on WIIN-funded monitoring.

7. RECAP OF DECISIONS/TASK

- All – Register for People Plus training.
- All – Encourage supervisors to complete TMS survey.
- Betsy S. will contact Kell Kelly for additional information on Administrator's interest in GKM.